

Serial No.: 10/565,195
Docket No.: 102-1647T
Amendment dated June 30, 2011
Reply to the Final Office Action of March 30, 2011

REMARKS

Introduction

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 1-17 have been allowed.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claims 18 and 20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is being presented. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are requested.

Entry of this Amendment After Final is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the claim amendments: (a) place this application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein), (b) do not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution as indicated in the Final Office Action), (c) present the rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal (should an appeal be necessary), and (d) are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the Final Office Action.

In particular, Applicants have canceled rejected claims 18 and 20 so as to "place this application in condition for allowance."

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC § 103

Claims 18 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,778,475 to Izumi et al. Applicants have canceled claims 18 and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

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Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, there being no other objections or rejections, this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

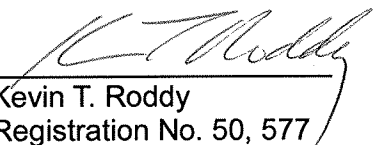
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 502827.

Respectfully submitted,

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